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26 November 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: OER Meeting with Representatives of the  
Government Accounting Office (GAO)

STAT 1. On 19 November, D/OER and I met with Joseph Feary and Philip Thomas of the International Division of the GAO. [redacted] of CIA's Office of Legislative Counsel was also present.

2. GAO is reviewing U.S. Government procedures for coping with short supply situations in internationally traded commodities. Accordingly, Messrs. Feary and Thomas were inquiring into Agency capabilities to monitor current and forecast future supply and demand situations for select agricultural and industrial commodities. Special reference was made to our support to U.S. decision makers preceding the imposition of temporary export controls on soybeans and their substitutes in June 1973.

3. Without reference to the particulars of the export control decision on soybeans, we briefed the GAO representatives on OER's intelligence role in support of U.S. policy makers. During the discussion it was emphasized that, because of limited assets and scope of our charter, OER was not in a position to provide commodity supply and demand analyses for the world as a whole; hence, our intelligence support would result in only a partial analysis for a given commodity.

4. No commitments were made by the CIA representatives to provide GAO with classified or unclassified materials concerning our past or future functions in producing intelligence.

[redacted]  
USSR/Eastern Europe Division

Distribution:

Orig. & 1 - D/OER  
1 - OLC ✓  
1 - D/U

STAT OER/D/U: [redacted] (26 November 1973)

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